

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 EC BRU 00133 061753Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----061756Z 094282 /41

R 061710Z JAN 77
FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2706

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0133

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EXDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES KATZ
AND HARTMAN ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC EAGR US MTN
SUBJECT: US-EC AGRICULTURE PROBLEMS

REF: (A) 76 EC BRUSSELS 8555, (B) EC BRUSSELS 090

1. AT LONG, RELATIVELY LEISURELY LUNCH TODAY GUNDELACH AND
I AGREED THAT APPROACH TO AGRICULTURAL CONFRONTATION OUTLINED
REFTEL A. IS BEST HOPE FOR BREAKING DEADLOCK. WE PLEDGED TO
EACH OTHER THAT EACH WOULD PERSONALLY WORK WITHIN OUR
RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO BRING IT ABOUT. HE THINKS IT IS
DOABLE. WE AGREED IN ADDITION THAT IT MIGHT BE WELL BECAUSE
OF ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN TO LET INDUSTRIAL NEGOTIATIONS RUN
INTO '78 OR EVEN '79 PROVIDED SUFFICIENT MOMENTUM COULD BE
MAINTAINED TO AVOID BACKSLIDING PROTECTIONISTIC MEASURES IN
INTERIM AND THAT TOP PRIORITY FOR '77 SHOULD BE NEGOTIATION
OF SUBSIDY/COUNTERVAILING SETTLEMENT TO INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL
PRODUCTS, GRAINS, CHEESE, AND HAM AS WELL AS COMMODITY ARRANGE-
MENT FOR GRAINS, ROUGHLY AS PROPOSED REFTEL. ON DIARY, IN
ADDITION TO MINIMUM PRICE UNDERSTANDING FOR CHEESE, GUNDELACH
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SAYS WE MUST HELP BY GIVING NEW ZEALAND IMPROVED ACCESS FOR
BUTTER THUS RELIEVING PRESSURE ON EC WHICH WITH ITS SURPLUS
PROBLEM CAN NOT GO ON FOREVER PROVIDING N.Z. AN ASSURED
MARKET. IN ADDITION, GUNDELACH, HAVING SLEPT ON MY HARD
REACTION TO TIMETABLE HE OUTLINED YESTERDAY (REFTEL B), NOW
WOULD WELCOME INVITATION CONSULT WITH NEW US SECRETARY OF
AGRICULTURE BERGLAND, COOPER, BLUMENTHAL, AND WITH NEW STR

IN FEBRUARY.

2. I HAVE NO DOUBTT THAT ENDLESS PROBLEMS OF DETAIL WILL ARISE BOTH HERE AND THERE IN TRYING OTO CARRY OUT THIS PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING BUT ON OTHER HAND I AM CONVINCED THIS IS THE WAY BOTH THE COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD GO. IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS WON'T WORK, NOTHING VERY DIFFERENT WILL.

3. IT IS ENORMOUSLY ENCOURAGING THAT FINN HAS SAID TO ME THAT I CAN TELL WASHINGTON HE WILL DO HIS BEST TO MAKE IT WORK. I LEAVE IT TO YOU TO DECIDE HOW TO BROACH THESE IDEAS WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION BUT I DO BELIEVE THAT WHETHER OR NOT YOU CHOOSE TO PREPARE THE GROUND, IT WOULD BE USEFUL WERE I CALLED BACK FOR CONSULTATIONS SHORTLY AFTER JANUARY 20 AND IF INVITATION FOR GUNDELACH FOR FEBRUARY VISIT WERE FORTHCOMING THEREAFTER. HINTON

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